

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 00231 211004Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 /024 W
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R 210915Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3449
INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0231

DEPT FOR DASS DIKEOS FROM RSS GARRETT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJECT: RSO POSITION - KHARTOUM

REF: DIKEOS/GARRETT TELECON 1/19/77

1. AFTER REVIEW AND DISCUSSIONS WITH APPROPRIATE POST PERSONNEL, IT IS CONCLUDED THAT THE CURRENT DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE RSO KHARTOUM ARE INSUFFICIENT TO SUPPORT THE CONTINUANCE OF THIS POSITION. WE HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT THESE RESPONSIBILITIES BE ASSUMED BY THE RSO NAIROBI OR ADDIS ABABA, AND, IF APPROVED, HAVE ASSURED THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE FULL RANGE OF SY SERVICES AND SUPPORT WILL CONTINUE TO BE PROVIDED TO KHARTOUM.
2. IN ARRIVING AT THE ABOVE, WE NOTED THAT THE RSO IS ENGAGED IN SY RELATED PROJECTS ON AN AVERAGE OF NO MORE THAN ONE HOUR PER DAY AND THAT OTHER CONTRIBM TIONS TO THE POST ARE NOT SIGNIFICANT. WHILE SOME ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES COULD BE ASSIGNED, THE SY WORKLOAD WOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED.
3. CONDITIONS WHICH PROMPTED THE INITIAL ASSIGNMENT OF AN RSO IN KHARTOUM STILL EXIST IN TERMS OF A GENERAL
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TERRORIST THREAT BY PALESTINIANS OR OTHERS. THE GOS CONTINUES TO EXPERIENCE UNREST AS EVIDENCED BY AN ATTEMPTED LIBYAN BACKED COUP IN JULY, 1976, AND THE PALESTINIAN DISSATISFACTION WITH SUDAN IN REGARD TO LEBANON WHICH COULD RESULT IN A TERRORIST ATTACK ON TARGETS IN SUDAN.

4. IN RESPONSE TO THESE THREATS, THE GOS NOW PROVIDES 24-

HOUR POLICE PROTECTION AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE; A
A BODYGUARD TO ACCOMPANY THE AMBASSADOR ON ALL MOVEMENTS;
AND POLICE COVERAGE AT DIPLOMATIC AND PUBLIC
FUNCTIONS, AS WELL AS AT THE EMBASSY. AN MSG POST HAS
ALSO BEEN ESTABLISHED AT THE RESIDENCE ON A PART-TIME BASIS.

5. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE POLICE PROTECTION OUTLINED
IS MINIMAL AND THAT THEIR OVERALL CAPABILITY IS QUESTIONABLE,
THE FACT IS THE GOS IS NOT IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE
MORE OR BETTER-TRAINED PERSONNEL. BASED ON THIS AND THE
ABSENCE OF A SPECIFIC THREAT, INPUT BY THE RSO WILL REMAIN
MARGINAL.

6. SY PROJECTS CURRENTLY PENDING IN KHARTOUM RELATE TO
(1) LOBBY MODIFICATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION OF AN MSG COUNTER
WHICH HAS BEEN EXORBITANTLY DELAYED DUE TO NON-ARRIVAL OF
ARMORING MATERIAL, AND (2) INSTALLATION OF ACM SYSTEM IN
THE AMBASSADOR'S OFFICE AND PENDING APPROVAL OF FUNDS AND
AVAILABILITY OF THE SYSTEM. BOTH PROJECTS WILL REQUIRE
RTC COORDINATION AND CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT A RESIDENT
RSO. THERE ARE NO OTHER SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS.

7. A SECURITY SURVEY IS DUE AT N'DJAMENA, THE LAST SURVEY
HAVING BEEN COMPLETED IN MARCH 1975. THERE ARE NO OTHER
MATTERS PENDING TO SERIOUSLY ENCUMBER THE RECEIVING RSO
OR PSO.

8. AS PER TELECON WE HAVE DIRECTED RSO LYLES TO REMAIN AT
POST PENDING FINAL DECISION AND TO BE PREPARED TO FULLY
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BRIEF THE SELECTED RSO AND PSO PRIOR TO LYLES' DEPARTURE
FROM POST.

9. AMBASSADOR CONCURS IN THE EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OUTLINED ABOVE. BREWER

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